

Cornell, her brother-in-law Rik Cornell, and her devoted cat Huey—in our thoughts and prayers.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GHAZAL FAMILY'S IMMIGRATION

Mr. REED. Madam President, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the Ghazal Family to the United States, a family whose legacy is inextricably intertwined with that of my State of Rhode Island.

On December 11, 1972, as the threat of violence and conflict in Lebanon festered, the Ghazal family set off for the United States. Arriving at Logan Airport, four young boys and two intrepid parents were immediately confronted with their first challenge: adapting from Beirut's sunny and warm weather to the blistering cold of New England in the winter. Driving south and settling in Rhode Island did little to change the weather.

But as so many immigrants did before them, the family began to put down roots in Rhode Island, settled down and made a name for themselves in their newly adopted country. The Ghazals were sponsored and primarily welcomed and hosted by their maternal uncle, the late Very Reverend Abdulahad Gabriel Doumato, then the pastor of St. Ephraim's Syriac Orthodox Church in Central Falls, RI, and his wife Victoria, as well as many other Doumato uncles, aunts, and cousins, who had made their own journeys to Rhode Island starting in 1952.

The Ghazal family swiftly became an active part of their communities like so many before them and so many since. Four generations later, the family has grown to 36 with 11 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and perhaps there are more to come. They understand and emphasize the importance of hard work, a good education, and service to other.

There is even a Senate wrinkle to the story of the Ghazals. One of their sons, Jay, worked for my predecessor Senator Claiborne Pell for 12 years and met his wife Maria here in the Senate when she worked for Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. They, like the other members of the Ghazal family, have dedicated their lives to mission-driven work. Given this family's history, I am confident that future generations of the Ghazal family will equally cherish and treasure the American ideals their predecessors have adopted and continue to believe in the American dream.

And as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this exceptional family's arrival in America, it is a welcome reminder to honor the legacy of those families who are celebrating their 75th, 100th, and even 1st such anniversary. The story of America has always been and continues to be a story of immigration. I am proud that so many immigrant families, like the Ghazal family, call Rhode Island home. Their con-

tributions enrich our communities and broaden our experiences. Their influence has helped define what it means to be a Rhode Islander and an American.

Finally, I extend my best wishes to the Ghazal family for the next 50 years of their journey in America and thank them all for their rich contributions to Rhode Island and our country.

TRIBUTE TO CARL SOSEBEE

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to praise one of our fine civil servants—Mr. Carl Sosebee, of Silver Spring, MD—for his service and leadership at the Peace Corps, which has culminated in his role as senior advisor to the Director. Mr. Sosebee's outstanding service in the Agency spans 20 years and a range of roles.

Throughout Mr. Sosebee's Peace Corps career, he has demonstrated his willingness to serve by taking on whatever position and challenge he was asked to fill, whether as attorney advisor, deputy general counsel, acting general counsel, acting chief of staff, and acting Associate Director of External Affairs, to name just a few. Thanks to this breadth of experience, Mr. Sosebee's knowledge of the Peace Corps' operations is unmatched and has uniquely qualified him to serve as a trusted adviser to several leaders of the agency.

Mr. Sosebee's skills and judgement were essential to helping the Agency weather one of its greatest challenges in recent years: the global evacuation of almost 7,000 volunteers at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the detailed planning and systemic changes the Peace Corps undertook to return volunteers to service in a world that has fundamentally changed. It was in no small part thanks to Mr. Sosebee's efforts that the Peace Corps, which just started sending volunteers overseas again in March of 2022, is already back in service in 45 countries, with 11 more on the way shortly.

Throughout his 20 years at the Peace Corps, Mr. Sosebee has functioned as an adhesive glue between administrations, consistently supporting each new leadership team that arrived in the Agency, while also providing career staff with a stable management presence during times of transition. Mr. Sosebee worked tirelessly as a dedicated civil servant to help each administration, regardless of political affiliation, achieve its goals with regards to the Peace Corps.

Mr. Sosebee is highly regarded within the Peace Corps. He is respected by his colleagues for his sharp intellect, professionalism, kindness, dedication to service, and for being a consummate team player. Mr. Sosebee consistently answered the call to service, enabling the Peace Corps to even more effectively fulfill its mission of promoting world peace and friendship.

In addition to his service at the Peace Corps, Mr. Sosebee has held posi-

tions at the Community Services Administration, the Department of State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Prior to his Federal service, Mr. Sosebee was a private legal practitioner, handling criminal and civil cases in the District of Columbia.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Carl Sosebee for his more than 40 years of service to the United States and in wishing him continued success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. KENNETH KATZMAN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the career of a dedicated public servant, Dr. Kenneth Katzman, for his three decades as a Congressional Research Service, CRS, analyst supporting the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Katzman began his CRS career in 1991, where he established himself as an indispensable expert on the Middle East. Known as a prolific writer, Dr. Katzman has authored hundreds of memoranda, reports, and other writings on the Middle East.

Throughout his time at CRS, Dr. Katzman has covered critical foreign policy issues, from the Gulf War to U.S. sanctions policies and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. His insights and analysis include tracking developments across the Middle East, including Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Kuwait. Dr. Katzman's expertise is deeply appreciated and critical to many Members of Congress and their teams across both sides of the aisle. Throughout my time in Congress, I have worked closely with Dr. Katzman on a number of issues related to the Middle East and thank him for all he has done to help inform my work related to the region.

Dr. Katzman personifies the Congressional Research Service's mission by delivering objective, fact-based analysis to offices across Capitol Hill so they can better understand unfolding events, their historical context, and the potential implications of congressional decisions. It is no surprise that he has been asked to testify before multiple congressional committee and subcommittee hearings covering U.S. foreign policy in Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. In 1996 and, again, in 2001, Dr. Katzman was detailed to the then-House International Relations Committee to support its work on Middle East issues, hearings, and legislation—including the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996. In addition to his large body of written work and testimony before Congress, Dr. Katzman has shared his expertise with Members and staff on several congressional delegations to the Middle East, including trips to Iraq and Afghanistan.

We will miss Dr. Katzman on Capitol Hill as a cherished resource on foreign policy matters. I congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.